



# Memo

**TO:** Mayor and Council

**SUBJECT:** Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program - British Columbia - Community, Culture and Recreation Infrastructure

**DATE:** September 11, 2020

**FROM:** Chief Administrative Officer

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## **BACKGROUND**

A Centennial Parks Upgrades project of \$ 1,414,460 had been submitted for the first phase of the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program which has received grant funding of approval of \$500,000 under the initial intake of 2015.

The Canadian and British Columbian governments committed up to \$100.6 million towards the second intake of the Community, Culture, and Recreation Program to support cost-sharing of infrastructure projects in communities across the Province. This intake is designed to target projects starting in 2021 or 2022.

It appears prudent that we apply under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program to undertake the following additions to Centennial Park:

- ✓ Electrical supply and lighting - \$180,000; and
- ✓ Combination tennis courts and pickle ball courts? - \$272,500; and
- ✓ Paving for parking - \$100,000.

With taxes and a 15% contingency, the total project costs would have been \$682,500 in 2016 dollars. The project, if approved, could occur over two years and the Town would have to commit to its share of the costs of the project.

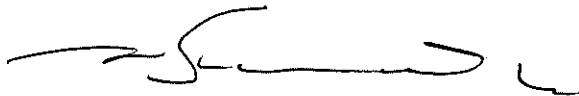
Centennial Park is an important component of the recreational infrastructure available to residents within and without the Town of Lake Cowichan. The residents and the elected officials, past and present, have viewed the recreational infrastructures in the vicinity, namely the Cowichan Lake Arena and the Centennial Hall together with two adjacent parks as forming the core of what is available for indoor and outdoor recreational activity. The near completion of the entire project with outside financial assistance makes great sense.

Council and residents of the Town are keen to ensure the well-being of those who make the Cowichan Lake area home. The planned upgrades for Centennial Park as envisioned above would provide the following:

- economic benefits and opportunities for existing and new businesses;
- healthier lifestyles;
- increased physical activity opportunities for every age;
- opportunities for social interaction among and between the different age groups;
- increased mobility opportunity for the disabled, children and the elderly; and
- making Lake Cowichan a more desirable place to call home.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the committee direct a grant application submission under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program - British Columbia - Community, Culture and Recreation Infrastructure be made prior to October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 to undertake additional upgrades to Centennial Park with council confirming its share of 26.67% of the costs.



Joseph A. Fernandez